WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising:

obtaining data corresponding to one or more data dimensions from a data source;

generating a smart radar chart graphical user interface, the smart radar chart graphical user interface comprising a visual representation of the obtained data corresponding to the one or more data dimensions,

wherein each data dimension is displayed radiating from a central point, and data corresponding to a data dimension is displayed at a position indicating a value of the data in relation to a reference value to enable identification of an exception; and

rendering the smart radar chart graphical user interface.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein generating the smart radar chart graphical user interface comprises generating a first smart radar chart graphical user interface having a first level of detail of the obtained data.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising generating a second smart radar chart graphical user interface comprising a second level of detail of the obtained data for one or more dimensions displayed in the first smart radar chart graphical user interface.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein generating a second smart radar chart comprises generating a second smart radar chart in response to user manipulation of an input device.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining data comprises obtaining data from a remote data source.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein obtaining data comprises obtaining data using a communications link.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining data comprises periodically obtaining data.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining data comprises continuously obtaining data.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining data comprises obtaining data in response to an occurrence of an event.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the event comprises a user input.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the reference value comprises an average value of measured data corresponding to a data dimension.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the reference value comprises a dynamically computed value.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein the reference value comprises a minimum value of measured data corresponding to a data dimension.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein the reference value comprises a maximum value of measured data corresponding to a data dimension.

15. The method of claim 1 wherein the reference value comprises a predetermined value.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein generating the smart radar chart further comprises normalizing the data.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein generating the smart radar chart further comprises displaying the data in relation to a representation of the reference value.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein the reference value is dynamically computed based on the obtained data.

19. The method of claim 1 wherein generating the smart radar chart further comprises visually indicating a difference between the data and the reference value.

20. The method of claim 1 further comprising generating an audible alert indicating presence of an exception.

21. An apparatus comprising:

a data source configured to provide data to a smart radar chart generator,

the smart radar chart generator configured to:

obtain data corresponding to one or more data dimensions from the data source;

generate a smart radar chart graphical user interface, the smart radar chart graphical user interface comprising a visual representation of the obtained data corresponding to the one or more data dimensions,

wherein each data dimension is displayed radiating from a central point, and data corresponding to a data dimension is displayed at a position indicating a value of the data in relation to a reference value to enable identification of an exception; and

enable rendering of the smart radar chart graphical user interface.

22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the smart radar chart generator generates a first smart radar chart graphical user interface having a first level of detail of the obtained data.

23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the smart radar chart generator is further configured to generate a second smart radar chart graphical user interface having a second level of detail of the obtained data for one or more dimensions displayed in the first smart radar chart graphical user interface.

24. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the smart radar chart generator is configured to obtain data from a remote data source.

25. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the smart radar chart generator is configured to generate a representation of the data in relation to a representation of the reference value.

26. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the smart radar chart generator is configured to generate a representation of the data at distance proportional to a magnitude of a deviation of the data from the reference value.

27. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the smart radar chart generator is configured to generate a representation to visually indicate a difference between the data and the reference value.

28. A graphical user interface that enables perception of information regarding one or more data dimensions, the interface comprising:

a data presentation area;

a visual representation within the data presentation area based upon data corresponding to one or more data dimensions,

wherein each data dimension is displayed radiating from a central point in a common plane, and data corresponding to a data dimension is displayed at a position indicating a value of the data in relation to a reference value to enable identification of an exception.

29. The interface of claim 28 wherein the visual representation comprises a first representation, the first representation having a first level of detail of the data.

30. The interface of claim 29 further comprising a second representation, the second representation having a second level of detail of the data for one or more dimensions displayed in the first representation.

31. The interface of claim 30 wherein the second representation is activated in response to user selection of a designated portion of the first representation.

32. The interface of claim 31 wherein the user selection is inferred based upon a position of an input device relative to a user interface.

33. The interface of claim 31 wherein the user selection comprises an overt selection activity using a user input device.

34. The interface of claim 30 wherein the second representation is rendered in a pop-up window.

35. The interface of claim 30 wherein the second representation is rendered as an overlay to the first representation.

36. The interface of claim 30 further comprising automatically closing the second representation.

37. The interface of claim 36 wherein the second representation is automatically closed based upon an expiration of a predetermined length of time.

38. The interface of claim 36 wherein the second representation is automatically closed based upon an inferred intent to close the second representation.

39. The interface of claim 38 wherein the intent to close the second representation is inferred based upon a position of a user input device.

40. The interface of claim 38 wherein the intent to close the second representation is inferred based upon an input of a user input device.

41. The interface of claim 28 wherein the reference value comprises an average value of measured data corresponding to a data dimension.

42. The interface of claim 28 wherein the reference value comprises a predetermined value.

43. The interface of claim 28 wherein the data is displayed in relation to a representation of the reference value.

44. The interface of claim 43 wherein the representation of the reference value comprises a reference circle.

45. The interface of claim 43 wherein the data is displayed at a distance proportional to a magnitude of a deviation of the data from the reference value.

46. The interface of claim 28 wherein the data is displayed to visually indicate a difference between the data and the reference value.

47. The interface of claim 28 wherein a summary indicator is rendered based on the value of the data.

48. The interface of claim 28 further comprising an audible representation corresponding to the presence of an exception.